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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

28 JAN 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Elaine Morton
Policy Planning Council
Department of State

FROM: [redacted]
Director of Global Issues

SUBJECT: West European Strength in Civil
Technology [redacted]

1. In response to your request, attached is a list of civil technologies in which the West Europeans have leading-edge capabilities. I hope this will assist you in formulating your proposal on US-European technical cooperation. [redacted]

2. If you have any further questions on this matter, please contact [redacted]

Attachment:

Areas of European Technology Excellence
GI M-85-10027, January 1985, [redacted]

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MEMORANDUM

Areas of European Technology Excellence

In broad terms, the West Europeans lag US and Japanese capabilities in most civil technologies. Nevertheless, the Europeans do have excellence in some technological sectors; these are primarily in segments of larger industries or technology areas. Many of these technologies are centered in private firms, however, and we believe that such companies may be unwilling to share technologies in which they have a competitive advantage. Selected areas of technology excellence are:

| <u>Technology</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Firm</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Ceramic powders (silicon nitride) | FRG | Starck |
| Hot Isostatic Presses | Sweden | ASEA |
| Robots | Sweden | ASEA |
| Ceramic parts (for structural applications) | FRG | Rosenthal Feldmuhle |
| Matrix materials for fiber reinforced plastics | Switzerland | Ciba-Geigy |
| Composite structures for secondary airframe applications | Italy | Aeritalia |
| Polyetherethertone (PEEK) resins for fiber reinforced composites | UK | Imperial Chemical Industries |
| Carbon-carbon composites | France | Aerospatiale |
| Graphite fiber weaving equipment | France | Societe Europeans de Propulsion |
| Polysilicon materials for semiconductors | FRG | Wacher |
| Automotive engine electronic controls, electronic braking | FRG | Robert Bosch |

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SUBJECT: West European Strength in Civil Technology

| <u>Technology</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Firm</u> |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Flexible Manufacturing Systems | FRG | Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm (MBB), Motoren and Turbinen Union (MTU), and various government and university institutes |
| Thin slab casting technology for steel | FRG Switzerland | Mannesman-Denag Concast [REDACTED] |

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In addition to the above, we believe there are newer technology areas in which the United States and Europe may pursue useful joint R&D. In aerospace, for example, mutually beneficial research might be conducted in turboprop or propfan propulsion technology. The technology is relatively new, and UK and French research may compliment work being done in the United States. [REDACTED]

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